

MINUTES

Winthrop University Faculty Conference

August 22, 2008

Johnson Auditorium

I. Call to Order

Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood, Chair of Faculty Conference, called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

II. Rhythm of Welcome

Dr. B. Michael Williams and the Winthrop Percussion Ensemble played Trio for Ogun by N. Scott Robinson to open our session. They have been practicing the piece for a performance in November at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Austin, TX.

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the April 25, 2008 meeting of Faculty Conference were approved without modification.

IV. Report from the Chair of Faculty Conference

Dr. Fortner-Wood reported on the June meeting of the Board of Trustees, where the Board adopted resolutions: honoring Karl Folkens (outgoing chair) and Dustin Evatt, extending President DiGiorgio's contract until 2014, conferring emeritus status on 10 of our faculty colleagues, approving funding for the Master Lease Program to acquire computer hardware and software, and setting the tuition schedule and operating budget for the coming academic year. Dr. Fortner-Wood said she was particularly pleased with the sensitivity of the Board to the issues parents and students are facing in these challenging economic times. The Board elected new officers: Ms. Kathy Bigham, Chair; Mr. Karl Folkens, Vice Chair; and Ms. Susan Smith-Rex, Secretary. Dr. Fortner-Wood added that in her report from the faculty to the Board, she was asked about the calendar adoption support motion from the April 25th meeting of Faculty Conference. She explained that the wording of the motion did not provide any detail about why it was defeated.

Dr. Fortner-Wood encouraged faculty to stay up to date on several of the challenging activities facing Winthrop this year, particularly in association with the Vision of Distinction and the Faculty Governance Review. No questions were raised about the Chair's report.

V. Report from the President

Dr. DiGiorgio welcomed us with a humorous quote from Mae West about "too much of a good thing is better" to characterize the degree of faculty interaction he has had through a typically busy week to start the new academic year. He reminded us that his opening address is available online. One budget item that has been expedited is the lighting for the new parking lot areas on Cherry Road. The President noted that Winthrop has already given back \$2.6 million to the state, and that finding an additional \$700 thousand will be challenging. A tuition increase for January might be possible, but everyone understands the price sensitivity of parents and students is very high. In the mean time, faculty should go ahead with business and let the administrative processes work. Winthrop continues to place a high premium on safety and security. Another 50 Alertus beacons will be installed this year, critical incident monitors are receiving additional

training, and some redundancy is being built into existing systems (e.g., it takes two card swipes to get to residence hall rooms). It is still unclear what is the best approach to securing classrooms; debate continues both on campus and nationwide. Dr. DiGiorgio invited questions but none were raised.

VI. Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs

After adding his welcome, Dr. Moore noted that one unusual aspect to this year is the number of accreditation review activities in process. For example, we are doing a readiness audit for SACS in preparation for a visit in spring 2011. He encouraged us to review and provide feedback on the proposed calendar (the latest version is available on the web under Academic Affairs), as well as to get involved in the ongoing discussion of faculty governance. He also noted in regard to where the Vision of Distinction already includes some flattening of the enterprise, we are getting a lot of interest from prospective students in opportunities for multiple majors and for 5-years-to-MS programs. In closing, Dr. Moore commented that after beginning 30 years ago as an assistant professor at Georgia Southern, he can clearly say the Winthrop is the best place he has ever been. In fact, Winthrop is the best it has ever been, with the best people doing the best work. He is glad to be back!

VII. Introduction of New Faculty and Administrators

Dr. Moore introduced:

- Dr. Jennie F. Rakestraw, Professor of Education and Dean of the Richard W. Riley College of Education (Ed.D., U Alabama)

Richard W. Riley College of Education

Dean Jennie Rakestraw introduced:

- Dr. Judy K. Britt, Assistant Professor of Elementary Education (Ph.D., U Alabama)
- Ms. Diana J. Durban, Instructor in Education, Curriculum & Instruction (M.Ed., U Georgia)
- Dr. Jennifer Lewis Jordan, Associate Professor of Counseling (Ph.D., Mississippi State U)
- Dr. Curt C. Laird, Assistant Professor of Sport Management (Ph.D., Ohio U)
- Dr. Kavin M. Ming, Assistant Professor of Reading (Ed.D., Florida Atlantic U)
- Ms. Melanie B. Powley, Instructor in Family and Consumer Sciences (M.Ed., Winthrop U)

Dr. Moore introduced:

- Dr. Yvonne M. Murnane, Dean of Graduate School and Associate Professor of Education, (Ph.D., Marquette U)

Graduate School

Dean Yvonne Murnane introduced the appointment of:

- Ms. Margaret L. Williamson, Assistant Dean

Dr. Moore introduced the appointment of:

- Dr. Gloria G. Jones, Associate Professor English and Dean, University College

University College

Dean Gloria Jones introduced the appointment of:

- Dr. Timothy K. Daugherty, Associate Dean and Director of the Touchstone Core
- Dr. Greg Oakes, Acting Director of ONCA
- Dr. David Rankin, Acting Director of TLC

College of Arts and Sciences

Dean Debra Boyd introduced new faculty:

- Dr. Eurnestine Brown, Assistant Professor of Psychology (Ph.D., U Pittsburgh)
- Dr. Tracy L. Griggs, Assistant Professor of Psychology (Ph.D., U Georgia)
- Ms. Saba Hanbali, Fulbright Exchange Professor, Modern Languages
- Dr. Heather J. Evans-Anderson (started Jan 2008), Assistant Professor of Biology (Ph.D., U South Carolina)
- Ms. Suma Jayanth (started May 2008), Research Staff Scientist/Instructor in Chemistry (INBRE) (M.S., U Mysore, India)
- Dr Justin S. Brown (to start Jan 2009), Assistant Professor of Mass Communication (Ph.D., Pennsylvania State U)

and new appointments:

- Dr. Timothy S. Boylan, Acting Chair, Department of History
- Dr. Beth G. Costner, Chair, Department of Mathematics
- Dr. Jonathan I. Marx, Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
- Dr. William F. Naufftus, Acting Chair, Department of English
- Dr. Sarah F. Stallings, Acting Chair, Department of Speech/Communication Disorders

College of Business Administration

Dean Roger Weikle introduced:

- Dr. Melissa F. Carsten, Assistant Professor of Management (Ph.D., Claremont Graduate U)
- Ms. Sandra J. Cereola, Instructor in Accounting (M.B.A., James Madison U)
- Dr. Willis Lewis, Jr., Assistant Professor of Economics (Ph.D., Clemson U)
- Dr. Brooke W. Stanley, Assistant Professor of Finance (Ph.D., Texas A&M U)
- Ms. Katherine C. Dykhuis, Director of External Relations and Assistant Professor of Business Administration (M.B.A., Winthrop U)

College of Visual and Performing Arts

Dean Elizabeth Patenaude introduced:

- Ms. Sangwon Sohn, Assistant Professor of Design (M.S., Pratt Institute)
- Mr. Jason A. Tselentis, Assistant Professor of Design (M.F.A., U Washington)
- Mr. Thomas L. Garner IV, Instructor in Design (M.F.A., Clemson U)
- Ms. Janice Mueller, Instructor in Fine Arts (M.F.A., Winthrop U)
- Ms. Margaret E. Griffin, Instructor in Dance (M.F.A., Florida State U)
- Mr. Zinorl N. Bronola (started Jan 2008), Instructor in Dance/Accompanist (M.M., Winthrop U)
- Dr. Kristen A. Wonderlich, Assistant Professor of Music (D.M.A., U North Texas)

- Ms. Karen M. Derksen, Assistant Gallery Director of Winthrop University Galleries and Instructor (B.A., U Regina, Canada)

VIII. Committee Reports and Introductions

A. Introduction of Chairs of Standing Committees

- Academic Freedom & Tenure – Jane Thomas
- Admissions Advisory – Chlotia Garrison
- Budget Priorities – voting in progress (Antje Mays was subsequently elected)
- Faculty Concerns – David Meeler
- Faculty Personnel – Mark Dewalt
- Library – Jennifer McDaniel-Milliken
- Rules – William Kiblinger
- Undergraduate Petitions – Anne Olsen

B. Academic Council

Dr. Beth Costner reminded us to watch the meeting dates and adhere to deadlines so that curriculum reviews can be done in a timely manner.

C. Faculty Personnel

Dr. Mark Dewalt presented a slate of candidates to replace Dr. Timothy Daugherty and Dr. Jonathan Marx on the Faculty Personnel Committee:

- Dr. Clifton Calloway, Department of Chemistry, Physics, and Geology
- Dr. Dwight Dimaculangan, Department of Biology
- Ms. Mary Beth Young, Department of Theater and Dance
- Dr. Marshall Jones, Center for Pedagogy

No additional nominations were placed from the floor. Ballots were distributed and voting will continue until noon, Monday, August 25 in Dacus Library for those absent today. The candidate receiving the highest votes will fill the three-year vacancy; the candidate receiving the second highest votes will fill the two-year vacancy.

IX. Unfinished Business

- Governance Review: Dr. Tom Polaski said the committee is in the process of gathering comments on the preliminary report. Representatives will be dispatched to discuss it with academic departments and affected standing committees, preferably at the first meetings of each this fall. The Review committee will then revise the document and present it to Faculty Conference for adoption in either late fall or early spring.

X. New Business

- TALONS: Tim Drueke, Registrar, introduced TALONS as the project to convert from our current administrative software to the BANNER suite of applications. The transition is expected to take several years, with Finance coming up in Jul 2009, Student and Financial Aid for fall 2010, and Human Resources in 2011. Some of the benefits expected include: use of contemporary technology, 24x7 access to information, paper reports replaced by electronic ones, better response times, support for regulatory and functional updates, new features, and better efficiency. Dr. Fortner-Wood pointed out that during the transition there may be both delays in service and some changes in how

we do business. She asked for our patience and our feedback. The steering committee meets 9-12 AM on Thursdays; members include: James Hammond, Tim Drueke, Betty Whalen, Glenn Savage, Cheryl Southworth, Amanda Maghsoud, and Cheryl Fortner-Wood.

XI. Announcements

- Registrar: Tim Drueke reminded us that Friday, 29 August is the last day for students to add or drop courses on-line. After that, paper will be required. Tuesday, 9 September will be the last day for undergraduates to select the S/U grade option.
- ONCA: Dr. Greg Oakes distributed a quarter-sheet to promote the opportunities available through the Office of Nationally Competitive Awards. Their office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons from 3-6 PM in the Bancroft Annex, University College. He asked us to encourage students to investigate the opportunities, which are not all for graduating seniors.
- Summer Session: Dean Yvonne Murnane announced that “summer school” has been re-named to reflect its role and offerings better. She asked that we work with our department chairs to funnel information on summer offerings to her office. The Summer Session website and e-mail address are now live year-round. She noted that Margaret Williamson is also working on putting together a housing package for summer.
- LEAP: Dr. Frank Pullano, co-director of LEAP, told us they welcomed 82 new students into the program this fall, and reminded us they will be collecting fall mid-term grades and attendance data in early October. He urged us to adhere strictly to the due date for responding because they intend to send reports to the students at their permanent home addresses just in time for students to arrive home for the fall break. In reminding us that we as faculty cannot speak to parents about grades and attendance, he noted that the LEAP office has obtained permission from the students to do so. Please give them whatever data you have available by their due date – if you wait over the week-end to grade one more quiz, your data will not get included in the student report.
- Common Book: Dr. Tim Daugherty reminded us that Sarah Erdman, author of this year’s common book, will be speaking Monday, August 25 in Plowden Auditorium at 8 PM and on Tuesday, August 26 in Byrnes Auditorium at 8 PM.
- Dacus Library: Dean Mark Herring reminded us that PASCAL, the South Carolina state colleges and universities arrangement to share library materials, is facing a legislative funding cut of 90% this year. He noted that last year we got over \$400,000 in value for only about \$6,000 in costs. Take a look at the library’s website for a list of the resources that are in jeopardy. We need to save this resource! Please go to pascalsc.org to see and contribute appropriate comments.
- Graduate Faculty: Dr. Beth Costner reminded graduate faculty to stay for the assembly immediately following so that a new chair can be elected.

XII. Adjournment

Dr. Fortner-Wood formally adjourned the meeting at 3:31 PM.

Submitted by Dr. Lynn DeNoia, Secretary for Faculty Conference